

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 188634 TOSEC 080262  
ORIGIN PA-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PRS-01 SSO-00 CCO-00 /019 R

DRAFTED BY PA/M:BDSHANKS  
APPROVED BY PA/J:EJACOBSON  
S/S- RPERITO  
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION  
PA, S/S, S/PRS

-----075431 101817Z /46

O 101739Z AUG 77 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 188634 TOSEC 080262

FOR CARTER FROM PA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HEREWITH FULL TEXT H.D.S. GREENWAY BY-LINER WEDNESDAY  
AUGUST 10 "SHIFT ON ISRAEL POSSIBLE, PLO CONFIRMS."

2. BEIRUT, AUGUST 9--A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PALESTINE  
LIBERATION ORGANIZATION TODAY AFFIRMED THAT THE PLO  
MIGHT BE WILLING TO ACCEPT UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTION  
242, THE BASIS UPON WHICH A MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFER-  
ENCE COULD BE HELD, IF THE WORDING OF THE RESOLUTION  
WERE CHANGED TO INCLUDE ,THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE  
PALESTINIANS."

3. PLO SPOKESMAN MAHMOUD LABADI CATEGORIZED AS "UNTRUE,  
AN EARLIER REPORT THAT THE PLO DENIED ANY WILLINGNESS  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 188634 TOSEC 080262

WHATSOEVER TO CHANGE ITS STAND ON RESOLUTION 242. BUT  
HE SAID IN AN INTERVIEW TODAY THAT IT WOULD BE UP TO THE  
U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL TO MAKE THE NECESSARY AMENDMENT  
BEFORE THE PLO COULD DECIDE.

4. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE PLO WOULD REGARD ACCEPTANCE  
OF RESOLUTION 242 AS A BASIS FOR ATTENDING A GENEVA

CONFERENCE TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS RATHER THAN AS A

FORMAL RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL. HOWEVER, IF THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES WERE TO INTERPRET A PLO ACCEPTANCE OF RESOLUTION 242 AS A DE FACTO RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL, "LET THEM SAY IT," HE SAID. THE POLICY OF SEEKING TO AMEND RESOLUTION 242 WAS NOT NEW, LABADI SAID.

5. "WE DON'T WANT TO BE AN OBSTACLE TO PEACE. WE WANT TO BE FLEXIBLE BUT NOT AT THE EXPENSE OF OUR LEGITIMATE RIGHTS TO OUR HOMELAND. WE CANNOT GO TO GENEVA SHOWING ALL OUR CARDS. FOR US FINAL RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL CAN ONLY COME OUT OF A SERIES OF VERY LONG AND DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS," LABADI SAID.

6. YESTERDAY BOTH PRESIDENT CARTER AND A SPOKESMAN FOR SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE SAID THAT THEY HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT THE PLO WOULD BE WILLING TO RECOGNIZE RESOLUTION 242 IF THE RESOLUTION COULD BE CHANGED TO INCLUDE THE POLITICAL RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS.

7. RESOLUTION 242, PASSED IN NOVEMBER OF 1967, CALLS FOR AN ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, PEACE WITHIN RECOGNIZED AND SECURE BORDERS FOR ALL THE STATES IN THE REGION AND A JUST SOLUTION FOR PALESTINIAN UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 188634 TOSEC 080262

REFUGEES.

8. BOTH CARTER AND VANCE INDICATED THAT A PLO ACCEPTANCE OF RESOLUTION 242 COULD BE CONSIDERED TANTAMOUNT TO A DE FACTO RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST. THIS IS VIEWED HERE AS A SHIFT IN AMERICAN POLICY BECAUSE VANCE SAID IN FEBRUARY THAT ONLY A CHANGE IN THE PALESTINIAN COVENANT WOULD SUFFICE TO MAKE THE PLO ELIGIBLE AS A NEGOTIATING PARTNER. WHEN THE PLO NATIONAL COUNCIL MET IN CAIRO THE FOLLOWING MONTH, HOWEVER, IT DID NOT CHANGE THE COVENANT OR SOFTEN THE PLO'S STAND ON NOT RECOGNIZING ISRAEL.

9. THE ATTEMPT TO GET THE PALESTINIANS TO ACCEPT RESOLUTION 242 IN ORDER TO BRING THE PALESTINIANS TO GENEVA IS SEEN HERE AS AN ATTEMPT TO GET AROUND THE PROBLEM OF THE PALESTINIAN COVENANT WHICH, IN EFFECT, CALLS FOR THE END OF THE JEWISH STATE.

10. IN ANY CASE, ISRAEL'S PRIME MINISTER MENAHEM BEGIN HAS ALREADY SAID HE WOULD VETO ANY ATTEMPT TO BRING THE PLO TO GENEVA NO MATTER WHAT IT DECIDED TO DO ABOUT

RESOLUTION 242. IT IS NOT YET CLEAR THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE WILLING TO ALTER THE WORDING OF RESOLUTION 242.

11. PLO SPOKESMAN LABADI CALLED YESTERDAY'S DEVELOPMENT A "TRIAL BALLOON; THAT THE AMERICANS SENT UP TO TEST THE REACTION FROM ALL SIDES.

12. IT IS UNDERSTAND THAT PLO CHIEF YASSER ARAFAT DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF RECOGNIZING RESOLUTION 242 IN EXCHANGE FOR A CHANGE IN THE ORDERING WITH BOTH THE SAUDI ARABIANS AND THE EGYPTIANS LAST WEEK. IT IS ALSO UNDERSTOOD THAT HE DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF A PALESTINIAN GOVERNMENT IN EXILE AS WELL. CHRISTOPHER UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 188634 TOSEC 080262

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TOSEC, PRESS COMMENTS, POLICIES, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, LIBERATION FRONTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 10-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE188634  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** BDSHANKS  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770288-0099  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770875/aaaaclxe.tel  
**Line Count:** 136  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** f3b4305d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN PA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1643620  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESS MATERIAL  
**TAGS:** OVIP, SOPN, PDEV, US, XF, PLO, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (GREENWAY, H D S)  
**To:** SECRETARY  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/f3b4305d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009